

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat. Application No
PCT/GB 03/00113

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G01B3/10

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G01B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 1 050 737 A (GEN HOUSEWARES CORP) 8 November 2000 (2000-11-08) column 1, line 5,6 column 2, line 2-13 column 2, line 42-47 column 3, line 28-45 column 3, line 52-54 column 7, line 3 -column 8, line 11 figures 10-12	1-7,9-11
A	---	8,12
A	US 5 077 911 A (VON WEDEMEYER PETER) 7 January 1992 (1992-01-07) column 2, line 45 -column 3, line 4 figures 1,2 ---	1,11
	-/--	

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *G* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

7 July 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

18/07/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Grand, J-Y

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Internat Application No
PCT/GB 03/00113

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 402 583 A (KOMURA MANABU) 4 April 1995 (1995-04-04) column 3, line 3 - line 22 figure 3	1, 11
A	US 2002/184783 A1 (ENOS JAMES ET AL) 12 December 2002 (2002-12-12) paragraphs '0021!', '0032! figure 1	1, 11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/GB 03/00113

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 1050737	A	08-11-2000	US 6226886 B1	08-05-2001
			AU 741185 B2	22-11-2001
			AU 3250300 A	09-11-2000
			CA 2308240 A1	06-11-2000
			EP 1050737 A2	08-11-2000
US 5077911	A	07-01-1992	DE 9001732 U1	13-06-1991
			AT 94276 T	15-09-1993
			AU 621781 B2	19-03-1992
			AU 7096691 A	31-10-1991
			DE 59002657 D1	14-10-1993
			DK 442051 T3	21-02-1994
			EP 0442051 A1	21-08-1991
			ES 2044377 T3	01-01-1994
			JP 2757971 B2	25-05-1998
			JP 3295401 A	26-12-1991
			ZA 9100150 A	27-11-1991
US 5402583	A	04-04-1995	JP 6046302 U	24-06-1994
US 2002184783	A1	12-12-2002	US 6442863 B1	03-09-2002
			WO 0033017 A1	08-06-2000